

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-18 and 20-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 6, 10 and 19 have been canceled and claims 1, 9, 15 and 22 have been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1, 5-7, 9-12, 15, 17-20 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Svennesson et al. in view of Blumenschein et al.; and claims 2-4, 8, 13, 14, 16 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Svennesson et al. in view of Blumenschein et al. and Eaton et al.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for discussing this application with the Applicant's representative on April 27, 2005. During the discussion, the differences between the present invention and the applied art were discussed. No agreement was reached pending the Examiner's further review when a response is filed. Comments presented during the discussion are reiterated below.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9-12, 15, 17-20 and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Svennesson et al. in view of Blumenschein et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include subject matter similar to that recited in dependent claim 6. Independent claims 9, 15 and 22 include similar features in a varying scope.

In a non-limiting example, Figures 3 and 4 illustrate establishing a temporary connection (ETC) between the SCP (SCF 31) and the IP (SSF 11). Then, a direct route is set between the SSP 10 and the IP 20 (see also Figure 2). As shown in Figures 3 and 4, the direct route is set by sending an Initial Address Message (IAM) from the SSF 11 to the SRF 21, and by sending an Address Complete Message (ACM) or an Answer Message (ANM) from the SRF 21 to the SSF 111 for transmitting the announcement of the service to the subscriber (sending of announcement in Figures 3 and 4). Thus, according to the present invention, the IP performs the service announcement directly to the SSP, rather than the SCP performing the call announcement. As noted in the background of the related art, the conventional conference call service does not use a specific resource of the IP, and is provided in the form of only an accept conference request message and reject conference request message of a conference indicator between the SSP and the SCP (see page 3, paragraph [0010]).

The Office Action recognizes Svennesson et al. does not disclose setting a direct route between the SSP and IP without using the SCP to announce the service and relies on Blumenschein et al. as teaching these features and cites Figure 2, cols. 6, lines 22-26 and 37-

52. Further, regarding the features recited in dependent claim 6, the Office Action applies Blumenschein et al. as sending an initial address message from an SSF to an SRF and sending an address complete message from the SRF to the SSF and cites col. 8, lines 24-40.

However, it is respectfully noted Blumenschein et al. is related to allowing users without an answering machine to have messages recorded. For example, Figure 1 shows a caller being able to record a message to a called party who doesn't have an answering machine (step S28). Further, as shown, the called party is periodically called again, and if the called party answers the call, the recorded message is played (see also col. 2, lines 16-52). Figure 2 also illustrates an SSP 54 being connected to a service node/intelligent peripheral (SN/IP) 56. However, there is no description in Blumenschein et al. about the specific commands between the SSP and the IP. Further, regarding col. 8, lines 24-40 of Svennesson et al., it is respectfully noted this section merely indicates that if the SRF functionality is co-located with the SSF, the SRF may communicate directly with the SSF. However, this doesn't change the fact that Svennesson et al. is still directed to the SCP providing the announcements (as discussed in the Background of the Related Art of the present invention). That is, Svennesson et al. is a conventional system in which the SCP is responsible for providing announcements. It is respectfully submitted the discussion in col. 8 of Svennesson et al. does not pertain to the SCP not being involved in providing the announcements as in the present invention, and that the combination of the reference do not teach or suggest the

Serial No. 09/897,972
Reply to Office Action of April 1, 2005

Docket No. P-0200

specific commands between the SSF (SSP) and SRF (IP) now included in the independent claims.

Further, it is respectfully submitted the other rejection has also been overcome as Eaton et al. also does not reach or suggest the claimed features nor the combinations thereof.

CONCLUSION

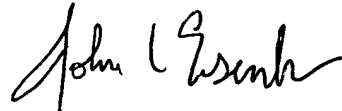
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Daniel Y.J. Kim**, at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. 09/897,972
Reply to Office Action of April 1, 2005

Docket No. P-0200

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



Daniel Y.J. Kim, Esq.
Registration No. 36,186
John C. Eisenhart, Esq.
Registration No. 38,128

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
703 766-3701 DYK/DAB:lew:tlg
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Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610